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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Manoj Ajbani et al

For: OVERMOLDED GRIP

Serial No.: 10/672,675

Filed: September 26, 2003

) Docket No. DN2002-152

) Art Unit: 1732

) Examiner:

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
) deposited with the United States Postal Service as
) first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
) Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 27, 2004.

Mary A. Nicoloff

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE IN COMPLIANCE WITH 37 C.F.R. §1.98

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the Applicants are calling the following to the attention of the Patent Office and request that they be considered by the Examiner:

United States Patent 4,250,273
United States Patent 4,340,684
United States Patent 4,343,918
United States Patent 4,927,882
United States Patent 5,476,914
United States Patent 5,334,677
United States Patent 6,566,478
United States Patent 6,313,216
United States Patent 6,372,863
United States Patent 6,293,325
United States Patent 6,289,959
United States Patent 6,140,434
United States Patent 5,844,044
United States Patent 5,679,751
United States Patent 5,677,402
United States Patent 5,448,003
United States Patent 5,239,009
United States Patent 5,272,220

United States Patent 3,686,364
United States Patent 3,865,776
United States Patent 3,758,643
United States Patent 3,806,558
United States Patent 5,051,478
United States Patent 4,104,210
United States Patent 4,130,535
United States Patent 4,202,801
United States Patent 4,271,049
United States Patent 4,340,684
United States Patent 4,250,273
United States Patent 4,927,882
United States Patent 4,311,628
United States Patent 5,248,729

However, the above-listed references may not be prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102 and this document should not be construed as an admission that any of the above-listed references are prior art within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §102.

United States Patent 4,250,273 may be relevant to the prosecution of the subject patent application because it suggests a thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising from about 10 to about 50 parts of a crystalline olefin polymer, from about 80 to about 15 parts by weight of a random styrene-butadiene rubber, and about 5 to about 55 parts by weight of a highly saturated elastomer.

United States Patent 4,340,684 may be relevant to the prosecution of the subject patent application because it suggests a thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising from about 10 to about 50 parts of a crystalline olefin polymer, from about 80 to about 15 parts by weight of a random styrene-butadiene rubber, and about 5 to about 55 parts by weight of a highly saturated elastomer, where in the blend was partially cured so that a thermoplastic elastomer was formed which had a melt flow index of at least 1.0 when tested in accordance with ASTM D 1238 condition L at a load of 100 pounds. The authors suggest that when the melt flow rate of the formed blend was less than 1.0, thermosetting formulations were formed.

United States Patent 4,343,918 may be relevant to the prosecution of the subject patent application because it claims the process for making a thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising from about 10 to about 50 parts of a crystalline olefin polymer, from about 80 to about 15 parts by weight of a random styrene-butadiene rubber, and about 5 to

about 55 parts by weight of a highly saturated elastomer.

United States Patent 4,927,882 may be relevant to the prosecution of the subject patent application because it claims a thermoplastic elastomer composition having a compression set less than about 30 % and produced by dynamic vulcanization of SBR to form a dispersed phase of crosslinked SBR in a co-continuous matrix of SEBS and polypropylene. The compositions had specific use in the pharmaceutical applications.

United States Patent 5,476,914 may be relevant to the prosecution of the subject patent application because it discloses syndiotactic polypropylenes that may be used in preparing the thermoplastic elastomer compositions of the present invention.

United States Patent 5,334,677 may be relevant to the prosecution of the subject patent application because it discloses syndiotactic polypropylenes that may be used in preparing the thermoplastic elastomer compositions of the present invention.

United States Patent 6,566,478, United States Patent 6,313,216, United States Patent 6,372,863, United States Patent 6,293,325, United States Patent 6,289,959, United States Patent 6,140,434, United States Patent 5,844,044, United States Patent 5,679,751, United States Patent 5,677,402, United States Patent 5,448,003, United States Patent 5,239,009 and United States Patent 5,272,220 may be relevant to the prosecution of the subject patent application because they generally describe elastomers polymerized by solution polymerization techniques as well as methods for their synthesis.

United States Patent 3,686,364 and United States Patent 3,865,776 give some examples of block copolymers that may be used in the practice of this invention.

United States Patent 3,758,643, United States Patent 3,806,558, United States Patent 5,051,478, United States Patent 4,104,210, United States Patent 4,130,535, United States Patent 4,202,801, United States Patent 4,271,049, United States Patent 4,340,684, United States Patent 4,250,273, United States Patent 4,927,882, United States Patent 4,311,628 and United States Patent 5,248,729 teach the type of curing or crosslinking agents and methods that can be utilized in the present invention.

Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY DOCKET NO. DN2002-152	SERIAL NO. 10/672,675
	APPLICANT (S) Manoj Ajbani et al	
	FILING DATE SEPTEMBER 26, 2003	GROUP 1732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date if Appropriate
	4,250,273	Feb. 10, 1981	Bohm et al	525	99	
	4,340,684	July 20, 1982	Bohm et al	525	194	
	4,343,918	Aug. 10, 1982	Bohm et al	525	194	
	4,927,882	May 22, 1990	Bayan	525	99	
	5,476,914	Dec. 19, 1995	Ewen et al	526	351	
	5,334,677	Aug. 2, 1994	Razavi et al	526	114	
	6,566,478	May 20, 2003	Henning et al	526	335	
	6,313,216	Nov. 6, 2001	Christian et al	524	575	
	6,372,863	April 16, 2002	Kerns et al	526	65	
	6,293,325	Sept. 25, 2001	Hsu et al	152	450	
	6,289,959	Sept. 18, 2001	Hsu et al	152	450	
	6,140,434	Oct. 31, 2000	Halasa et al	526	174	
	5,844,044	Dec. 1, 1998	Sandstrom et al	525	237	
	5,679,751	Oct. 21, 1997	Halasa et al	526	174	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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	5,677,402	Oct. 14, 1997	Halasa et al	526	174	
	5,448,003	Sept. 5, 1995	Hsu et al	526	181	
	5,239,009	Aug. 24, 1993	Halasa et al	525	258	
	5,272,220	Dec. 21, 1993	Rodgers et al	525	332.3	
	3,686,364	Aug. 22, 1972	Robinson et al	260	876	
	3,865,776	Feb. 11, 1975	Gergen	260	33.6	
	3,758,643	Sept. 11, 1973	Fisher	260	897	
	3,806,558	Apr. 23, 1974	Fisher	260	897	
	5,051,478	Sept. 24, 1991	Puydak et al	525	195	
	4,104,210	Aug. 1, 1978	Coran et al	525	232	
	4,130,535	Dec. 19, 1978	Coran et al	524	487	
	4,202,801	May 13, 1980	Petersen	525	232	
	4,271,049	June 2, 1981	Coran	525	191	
	4,340,684	July 20, 1982	Bohm et al	525	194	

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		4,927,882	May 22, 1990	Bayan	525	99		
		4,311,628	Jan 19, 1982	Abdou-Sabet et al	524	447		
		5,248,729	Sept. 28, 1993	Inoue et al	525	92B		

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